

Clemson University

TigerPrints

Thomas Green Clemson Papers, Mss 2

Manuscript Collections

1-1-1928

Letter from Hugh McLan, 1928

Follow this and additional works at: <https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/tgc>

Materials in this collection may be protected by copyright law (Title 17, U.S. code). Use of these materials beyond the exceptions provided for in the Fair Use and Educational Use clauses of the U.S. Copyright Law may violate federal law.

For additional rights information, please contact Kirstin O'Keefe ([kokeefe \[at\] clemson \[dot\] edu](mailto:kokeefe@clemson.edu))

For additional information about the collections, please contact the Special Collections and Archives by phone at 864.656.3031 or via email at [cuscl \[at\] clemson \[dot\] edu](mailto:cuscl@clemson.edu)

Recommended Citation

"Letter from Hugh McLan, 1928" (1928). *Thomas Green Clemson Papers, Mss 2*. 1664.
<https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/tgc/1664>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Manuscript Collections at TigerPrints. It has been accepted for inclusion in Thomas Green Clemson Papers, Mss 2 by an authorized administrator of TigerPrints. For more information, please contact kokeefe@clemson.edu.

[1928?]

Rev Hugh McLus

Was intimately acquainted with the Clemson family
from the year 1868 to 1874 inclusive

Mrs Clemson told me she desired to see an
Industrial Institution erected upon Fort-Hill Tract of
Land - It was in litigation at the time, but she considered
it as her property - Mrs Clemson situated the same thing
to me when she was living at Fort-Hill after it had
been sold and bought-in by her or her trustee

Mrs Clemson tried to accomplish this purpose
during her life time. In fact from my personal
knowledge of the matter, the idea of erecting an
Industrial Institution at Fort-Hill originated with
Mrs Clemson and Mr Clemson in all of his
talks about the matter referred to it as we - one
& c How did she try to accomplish this purpose
She asked the cooperation of a committee which she
herself selected, consisting of seven men - I was
one of them - This committee held several meetings
and issued an address to the public - signed by each
one of the committee - This is the address and
the seven names signed are the committee selected
by Mrs Clemson - This committee accomplished
nothing at that time owing to the depressed
conditions of the Country - & eventually failed by reason of the
prejudice stirred up by certain articles published in the News & Courier or Mr L
Mrs Clemson talked a great deal to me, & was
frequently at her house - about the great benefits
that would accrue to this State from the

establishment of such an institution, and she was very much interested in seeing it accomplished.

I was or had been selected by Mrs. Blunson as agent or corresponding secretary of this association gotten up by Mrs. Blunson to erect this College - On one occasion when at Mrs. Blunson's I met Mr. Best and had a long talk with him about the matter. He approved of it and was interested in accomplishing the end. I asked him if the association or the State should succeed in this purpose and get possession of Fort-Hill could good title to the property be secured - He said yes -

The most of my work to accomplish this purpose was done in the years 1873 & 1874. Mrs. Blunson aided and directed the accomplishment of this purpose up to the time of my last interview with her, and her interest in the matter was unabated to the very last interview, which was some in early part of 1874 - About this time or a little ^{after} ~~before~~ I had moved to Cornell -

Mr. Blunson continued in this purpose after his wife's death, with this difference that after his wife's death he proposed to give the bulk of all of his property with Fort-Hill for the accomplishment of this purpose.

Mr. Blunson told me Mrs. Blunson had made him promise that he would never sell or alienate Fort-Hill or put it beyond where the

State could get it for the purpose of this Agriculture
School -

My intimate relations with Mr. Blinson continued
after Mr. Blinson's death and we frequently
conversed together. Mr. Blinson regarded Fort Hill
as his property - legally, but - that - he held it - only for
the purpose of carrying out his wife's purpose, that
it - to apply it - for the purpose of erecting an Agriculture
College.

Mr. Blinson told me when the College Buildings
were erected she wished a Tablet of marble to be
placed in the Chapel in memory of her father
J. C. Calhoun, and she thought that such a
monument would be more pleasing to him than
any other monument. He was deeply interested in the
educational welfare of the boys of this Country -
so was she. She said it was lamentable to see
so many young men wandering about the Country
with their hands in their pockets, not knowing
what to do, and unable to do any thing for the
want of a little mental Capital to start upon
when she said this she said it with emotion
and almost weeping.

When Mr. Walker conveyed a tract of land to estab-
lish a College (Industrial) I was ^{President of the Board} ~~one~~ of the Trustees
named in his deed. I had heard that Mr. Blinson
had intended to will his property for the purpose
of a College similar, Before going to work with
the Walker College I went to see Mr. Blinson

and told him what I had heard and told him
it would be useless to try and build up a College
on the Walker gift, if he had given his property
for that purpose. He told me he had willed
all of his property or the bulk of it to the State
for the purpose of establishing of such an institution
and that the papers were in the hands of Capt
J H Rion

Rev Hugh McCall